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Selectmen's Minutes 03-16-2009

TOWN OF ARLINGTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Meeting Minutes
 Monday, March 16, 2009

7:15 p.m.

Present: Ms. Rowe, Chair, Mr. Hurd, Vice Chair, Mr. Greeley, Mrs. Mahon and Ms. LaCourt
 Also present: Mrs. Galkowski, Ms. Rice and Mrs. Krepelka

Marie Moloney, 19 Wheaton Road and her son Liam, a 4th grade student at Thompson School, appeared before the Board and asked the Board to please do something for Thompson School. Mrs. Moloney is concerned about health, safety and educational equity at Thompson School. Mrs. Moloney feels that the Town should apply for Bonds immediately and not wait until approval from the State is given. She stated the children need the Board's help in solving this problem. Ms. Rowe stated we are ready to go -- the first item in the stimulus program is Thompson School. She assured Mrs. Moloney that the entire Board is working hard at

getting the Thompson School on the Agenda. On February 25th Catherine Craven, School Building Assistance Program, took a tour of the Thompson School to see the condition of the school. Ms. LaCourt stated that the minute the State approves said funds we are ready to go.

Mrs. Moloney thanked the Board for their support.

1. WARRANT ARTICLE HEARINGS

Article 24 Bylaw Amendment/Excavation and Trench Safety

Mrs. Mahon moved approval. SO VOTED (5-0)

Article 8-STM Home Rule Legislation/Subdivision Control

Ms. LaCourt moved approval. SO VOTED (5-0)

Article 25 Home Rule Legislation/Subdivision Control

Mr. Greeley moved approval. SO VOTED (5-0)

Article 33 Establish Pay as You Throw Trash Collection System

Ms. Lacourt moved no action. SO VOTED (5-0)

Mr. Gordon Jamieson, 163 Scituate Street, Vision 2020 Standing Committee spoke to the Board regarding the PAYT Warrant Article. Mr. Jamieson's report referred to the Arlington Sustainability Action Plan, Arlington's Municipal Solid Waste, Recent Achievements Demonstrate Potential For PAYT Success, PAYT Plan and Additional Benefits. (See attached)

Director of Public Works, John Bean, also spoke in favor of the PAYT Article and stated that if and when an article is passed he could have said article implemented in six months' time.

Ms. Lacourt moved no action of this article with the provision that we include in our comments a directive to the Town Manager that he request that the current Chair of the Board, Clarissa Rowe, and the Director of Public Works, John Bean, to open a project to create a plan for the possible implementation of a PAYT program involving anyone else they feel would contribute to the effort. The PAYT planning team would report back to the Board of Selectmen one year from now, including in their report the full range of options to be considered so that we would be ready to present a plan at Town Meeting in April 2010 should we feel that a PAYT program ought to be considered as part of the next 5 year financial

stability plan.

Mr. Greeley is happy to study this program and come back next year with a report.

Mr. Jamieson reported that the EcoFest would be held on Saturday, March 28, 2009 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Town Hall Auditorium and encouraged every one to attend.

Mr. Jamieson also reminded the Board of Selectmen to join Vision 2020 for the Annual State of the Town Address to be held on Monday, April 27, 2009, at 7:00 p.m.

Article 52 Local Option Taxes

Mr. Greeley moved no action.

SO VOTED (5-0)

Article 53 Appropriation/Improvements/Mead Road

Mr. Greeley moved no action.

SO VOTED (5-0)

The Board thanked Mr. Weinberger for bringing his concerns about storm water runoff and pedestrian safety to the Board.

The Board recommended no action under this article because they felt that street and sewer improvements can be corrected under the existing Operations and Capital Projects Budget. The Board requested the Town Manager and Director of public Works to look at options for short-term mitigation and long term solutions and report back to the Board and Mr.

Weinberger no later than June 30, 2009.

Article 69 Instruction to Board of Selectmen

Mr. Greeley moved no action.

SO VOTED (5-0)

The Board recommends no action under this article because the proponent request would have no legal effect and therefore would be outside the power of Town Meeting to issue. When the next vacancy on the Zoning Board of Appeals occurs, the Board will seek to appoint a registered engineer or architect as set forth in the Zoning Bylaw.

2. **FINAL VOTES AND COMMENTS**

Article 15 Bylaw Amendment/Demand Fee Unpaid Taxes

Mr. Greeley moved approval.

SO VOTED (5-0)

Correspondence Received

MassDEP	Laurie Burt, Commissioner	Municipal Sustainability Grant Awarded	Be Rec'd
Verizon Video	Jill M. Reddish	Annual Billing Practice Notice	Be Rec'd
11A Lake View Street	Christine A. Dorchak, Esq.	Endorsement of Green Dog Pilot Program Proposal	Be Rec'd
DCR Commissioner	Richard K. Sullivan, Jr.	Response to Concerns Re: DCR Greenway Project	Be Rec'd

Ms. LaCourt reported she took a tour of Sunnyside Avenue and she supports the 4' – 6' path, but wants to see the final plans. Mrs. Mahon said she has yet to see the final plans even though the Board has been asking to see the plans. Mrs. Mahon stated she has concerns about conflicting and confusing information between the Board of Selectmen and Conservation Commission. Mrs. Mahon would like the Board to ask the DCR to go back to the original 4' – 6' bikeway. She is concerned the DCR is requiring us to maintain, patrol and clean the area. Also, why should the Town of Arlington help in establishing Friends of Alewife to clean the area.

Mr. Greeley moved receipt of correspondence.

SO VOTED (5-0)

New Business

Mr. Greeley thanked Mr. Hurd and Ms. Rowe for joining the Selectones on Saturday, March 14th for a great “gig” at the Senior Center. He also thanked all the volunteers who joined in with their singing voices.

Mr. Greeley asked to make a formal request through the Chair to have the Town Treasurer submit a one or two page report on the gains and losses of the Stabilization Fund. He would also like a history of the investments. Mr. Greeley asked for the copy of the report that Charlie Foskett sent regarding the Override Stabilization Fund. He asked if the Board of Selectmen should be involved and wants to know what is the policy and what is the performance of the fund. Mr. Greeley asked the Town Treasurer to submit a report on the role of the Management Analysis position and what his responsibilities are particularly in regard to the new parking budgets. Also, he asked what is the role of the Assistant Town Treasurer in comparison to the Management Analysis position. Ms. LaCourt stated she would like a report from its inception. Ms. Rowe stated she would like to see a decision on investments made by a group of people and not one person.

Mrs. Mahon reported that the Co-Ed Varsity Cheerleading Squad came in 5th in the State during their February 25th competition. Mrs. Mahon asked Mrs. Galkowski if she would submit a recap of the Snow & Ice Accounts and report back.

Mrs. Mahon asked Mrs. Galkowski if she would report back on the latest information regarding the reconstruction of Forest Street.

Mrs. Mahon asked if the Manager would submit a report on the audible signals at Summer Street and where does it stand as of today.

Mrs. Mahon asked Mrs. Galkowski for a report regarding sidewalk/street construction being done this spring and summer – what do the summer projects look like.

Mrs. Mahon suggested the BOS be proactive and have a joint meeting with the School Committee to talk about what we can merge together in respect to the Budget. Also, with the IT Department how can we work together to have the school/town on the same page.

Ms. Rowe stated that Arlington has asked for stimulus money earmarked for the following projects:

Fire Stations, reconstruction of Forest and Washington Street, \$750,000 for one culvert and \$1.5 million if we can do two - Millbrook and Brattle Street. Ms. Rowe reported that she along with Senator Donnelly, Representative Kaufman, Representative Garballey, Representative Brownsberger and the Town Manager have been monitoring the situation daily. Ms. Rowe stated she received a telephone call from Congressman Markey today stating that Arlington will receive \$475,000 for the Mass. Avenue Corridor.

Mrs. Mahon asked Mrs. Galkowski if we could have more information on the two culverts being installed on Brattle Street and Millbrook. She inquired if we could possibly do Mill Street if funds became available.

Ms. LaCourt stated that the Arlington Youth Health and Safety Coalition's 3rd Annual Community Forum would be taking place on Thursday, March 10, 2009, 7 – 9 P.m. in the Town Hall Auditorium and urged everyone to attend.

Mr. Greeley congratulated Arlington Catholic on their exciting game Sunday night at the Garden for the Division 1 title. Unfortunately, AC lost in overtime 2-1.

Mr. Greeley moved to adjourn at 9:15 p.m.

SO VOTED (5-0)

A true record: Attest:

Marie A. Krepelka
Board Administrator